

## **DPSS/SHERIFF HOMELESS RELEASE PROJECT FACT SHEET**

On April 4, 2006, the Board of Supervisors approved the DPSS/Sheriff Homeless Release Project, which is an expansion of the current Twin Towers Project. The DPSS/Sheriff Homeless Release Pilot Project was developed and implemented as a result of a mutual and collaborative effort between DPSS and the Sheriff Department to prevent and reduce homelessness in the County.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Effective August 2006, DPSS staff began processing General Relief/Food Stamp, CalWORKs/Food Stamp, and Food stamp only applications; and Medi-Cal referrals for homeless individuals being released from Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF) and Men's Central Jail (MCJ). DPSS intake eligibility staff travel from South Central and Civic Center District Offices to the detention facilities to process application referrals received from the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's in-house Community Transition Unit (CTU) staff, to interview homeless inmates being released and potentially eligible for GR, FS, and CW. Upon release, inmates are issued bus tokens (by the Sheriff Department), to travel to the appropriate district. In addition, inmate/applicants are given a referral, which includes traveling directions to the district office to complete the application process and receive benefits the same day. The implementation date for CRDF was August 15, 2006 and August 22, 2006 for MCJ.

### **COURIER SERVICE**

Effective September 2006, DPSS benefits are couriered to CRDF from South Central District, on an as needed basis, for individuals who may have a mental health concern that would make it difficult for him/her to reach the District Office via the Watts Dash, and for individuals who are released late in the afternoon who would not likely arrive at the District Office timely if they had ridden the Watts Dash.

### **CASHIER OPERATION**

With the projected implementation date of February 2007; one Cashier, one Supervising Clerk, and one SFIS Clerk will be housed in the CTU at MCJ. Upon release, the applicant's case will be processed and benefits issued on-site. Until the implementation of the cashier operation at MCJ, courtesy issuances will be available to MCJ inmates whose choice is to pickup benefits at their district of residence.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The projected cost in the DPSS Assistance budget is \$592,059 (for the first year), with ongoing annual Assistance cost projected at \$747,864. Administrative cost for staffing one unit (seven Eligibility Workers, one Eligibility Supervisor and one clerk) at both CRDF, and MCJ will be \$348, 949 per year. Both the Assistance and Administrative costs are Net County Cost.